

In the Drawings:

Figure 1 has been amended to include a Prior Art legend. A replacement sheet, including the Prior Art Legend for Figure 1 and properly labeled as a replacement sheet is submitted herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Drawings

The drawings were objected to because Figure 1 was not labeled as prior art. Applicants have amended Figure 1 to include the Prior Art Legend. A replacement sheet for Figure 1 is attached herewith. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Kao (U.S. Patent No. 6,792,487). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections at least because Kao is not valid prior art under section 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Specifically, the earliest possible 102(e) priority date for Kao is December 13, 2002 which is after Applicants earliest priority date of November 8, 2002. To perfect Applicant's claim for priority, Applicants submit herewith an English language translation of the priority document which is verified to be accurate. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants Appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 4-7 contain allowable subject matter. However, in view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims (claims 1-7) are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

